

WHAT THE DIABETIC NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT DIET. By a Certified Dietitian. London : John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd., 1933. pp. 85. Price 2s. net.

THERE is perhaps no literature dealing with specific disease addressed to the patient so voluminous as that on the subject of diabetes. This can probably be explained by the fact that there is no other disease in which the physician has to rely, to the same extent, upon self-treatment by the patient. Yet in spite of the plethora of books, this small volume, written by a certified dietitian, will find a welcome as a suitable book to offer diabetic patients. It is a simple introduction to diabetic diet and cookery. It describes the principles of diet, and in it there is given a goodly number of simple recipes of easy preparation. After each recipe is given the food-value in carbohydrates, proteins, and fats, together with the caloric value. The recipes are preceded by short abstracts from major books on basic considerations in diabetic dietary.

R. H. H.

MODERN BIRTH CONTROL METHODS. By G. Ryley Scott. With a foreword by Sir W. Arbuthnot Lane. London : John Bale, Sons and Danielsson, Ltd., 1933. pp. 209 + x.

THIS book is a review of the technical methods used for the prevention of conception. The work seems to be designed for laymen, and the purpose of the author lies in presenting such information as will permit the individual to select that contraceptive method which is best suited to his or her particular case. We feel, however, that in the case of the female, at least, this selection should always be made under medical supervision. Whether such detailed information about contraceptives is wholly desirable in a book intended for lay persons seems to us doubtful. We feel also that the chapter on abortion and abortifacients might have been omitted without detracting from the value of the book. We do not think medical men will find much in this volume that is not already accessible to them in the more scientific treatises on the subject. Possibly they may find the book useful for some of their patients.

THE CAMPBELL MEMORIAL ORATION

THE fifth Campbell Memorial Oration was delivered by Dr. J. S. Campbell in the Medical Institute, Belfast, on 19th January, 1933. The subject of the Oration was "The Problem of the Streptococcus." The president of the Ulster Medical Society, Professor C. G. Lowry, occupied the chair. In introducing the orator, Professor Lowry reminded his audience that Mr. Robert Campbell, whose memory the Oration honours, died in 1920 at the early age of 54. Four Orations had been delivered. The first orator was Professor Thomas Sinclair, the second Sir Thomas Houston, the third Sir John Campbell, and the fourth Professor Andrew Fullerton. In selecting these orators, the trustees of the Fund were influenced by the brilliant work each of these men had done in his own particular field, and also that each of them had been an intimate friend of Mr. Campbell himself. This year, in view of the excellent research work that is being done by some of the junior members of the Medical School, it was thought that it is time a representative of this side of the Belfast School of Medicine should have an opportunity of delivering the Memorial Oration. Dr. John S. Campbell had been chosen, on account of the outstanding merit of the work which he had accomplished in the domain of bacteriology.

Professor Lowry then introduced Dr. Campbell, who delivered the Oration. This is published in full as a supplement to this number of the Journal.

At the conclusion of the Oration, Dr. John Rankin proposed a vote of thanks to Dr. Campbell. He said previous orators had all known Robert Campbell, but this was the first time one who had not enjoyed his friendship had made his contribution. Robert Campbell was a scholar, and it was that happy blend of the scholarly and the scientific mind that made him such a dear and valuable friend. The vote of thanks was seconded by Dr. J. S. Morrow, who had been a colleague of the late Robert Campbell in the Belfast Hospital for Sick Children, and in the Royal Victoria Hospital. He said that the subject of the Oration was particularly appropriate to the occasion, inasmuch as the life of a surgeon was a constant conflict against the dire results of the streptococcus and kindred organisms. He added that Robert Campbell's memory is very fragrant. He had been a brilliant student, an accomplished surgeon, a man of widest culture, the soul of honour, and a great friend.

Sir Thomas Houston, in supporting the vote of thanks, paid a fitting tribute to the great value of Dr. J. S. Campbell's work of the past few years in the Royal Victoria Hospital. With characteristic modesty, Dr. Campbell had not mentioned his own work, but when his researches come to be written, they will surely establish many points of fundamental importance in the study of streptococci. We believe that in its broad lines, Sir Thomas continued, the work done in our laboratory and that of Dr. Campbell have established a definite classification of enterococci. The French have a proverb that what is not worth proving often cannot be logically proved. There is such a thing as cumulative evidence and moral certainty without complete logical proof. We may have to be content with this sort of evidence which, when it is sufficient, is irresistible.

Professor Lowry, in conveying the vote of thanks, said as he listened to the Oration he was reminded of an expression made by the late Robert Campbell in speaking of a young graduate of this school: "As long as the Belfast School of Medicine can train and produce graduates of this calibre, it can well claim to be a medical school of the first class." "If Mr. Campbell were here to-night," Professor Lowry said, "I think he would unhesitatingly and with great justification pronounce that eulogium on our young friend who has just addressed us." Professor Lowry then presented Dr. Campbell with the bronze medal of the Orator.

ULSTER MEDICAL SOCIETY

THE fourth meeting of the Society was held in the Medical Institute on Thursday, 5th January, at 6.30 p.m. The president, Professor Lowry, occupied the chair, and introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Duncan White of Edinburgh, who read a paper: "Radiological Diagnosis of Intra-thoracic Newgrowths." At the outset, Dr. White stressed the necessity for close and efficient co-operation between physician and radiologist, if earlier and more accurate diagnoses of intra-thoracic neo-